



► **International Labour Standards**

**Department (NORMES)**

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Minister of Employment  
Ministry of Economic Affairs  
and Employment  
P.O. Box 32  
HELSINKI  
FI-00023 Government  
FINLANDE

Geneva, 16 April 2024

Subject: Intervention

Dear Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that, by a letter dated 16 April 2024, the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) has requested the ILO's urgent intervention in respect of new draft legislation before Parliament concerning the conditions for sympathy strikes and the maximum duration of "political strikes". The ITUC alleges that this legislation, should it enter into force, would have a severe impact on the ability of trade unions to exercise freely their activities for the defence of their members occupational interests and contends that tripartite consultations on its content were only nominal and deviated from previous practices. A copy of this communication is attached for your information.

Please allow me to recall, honourable Minister, that the ILO supervisory bodies have highlighted the importance of any changes to the scope and exercise of trade union rights being subject to in-depth consultations with the most representative organizations in order to find, as far as possible, shared solutions. In this regard, I would encourage you to pursue consultations with the relevant social partners with a view to fully canvassing possible adjustments that would reflect buy-in from all parties and ensure preservation of the social.

Should you so desire, the Office remains at your disposal to undertake a technical assessment of the compliance of the draft legislation with international labour standards and decisions relating to freedom of association, as well as to provide advice on comparative practices in the region.

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I would be grateful for your Government's views on the matters raised in the ITUC communication which, in accordance with the procedure for informal interventions will be transmitted to the ITUC for information. Moreover, in accordance with the ITUC's request, its communication will be transmitted to the Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations in its examination of the application of the Freedom of Association Convention No 87. Any comments your Government may make on this matter will also be transmitted to the Committee of Experts for its consideration.

For the Director-General:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Vargha', written over a light grey rectangular background.

Corinne Vargha  
Director  
International Labour Standards Department